

Subject: Feb Newsletter
From: Fitzpace@aol.com
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To:

Linkage

A Newsletter for SLTP Alumni and Staff

February, 2003

To all our Alumni, Family and Friends ...

Happy Valentine's Day
to a friend
who makes
my heart smile.



Happy Valentine's Day

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A Difference Realized

Just a little over 3 weeks ago, we sent out a DifferenceMaker Alert to all of our alumni and staff. We asked everyone to participate in the National Valentines for Soldiers campaign. We wondered how many valentines we could muster in such a short time. Simple math reasoned that the number could be very large. Yet 3 weeks was not exactly a lot of lead time.

The response was more than we could have dreamed. We heard from clubs, student councils, church youth groups, key clubs, elderly groups, dance teams, chorus, faculties, dorm floors, service groups ... and the list goes on and on. We received reports from over 130 groups . . . from most of our member schools and beyond.

We thought wouldn't it be cool if everyone made 500 valentines each. Well, the smallest number reported was 100. The largest 3,000.

There were lots and lots of valentine making parties. The one we held with our LI Staff was a load of fun. In just under an hour we made over 500 valentines. It was like being a little kid all over again.

DifferenceMaking is like that, isn't it? I mean while you are doing it with your friends, you have lots of fun and share lots of smiles. And the end result of your efforts is a smile given and received. At this crucial time is there anything more desirable than putting a smile on the faces of the soldiers who are stepping into harm's way for all of us?

So how many did we make all together? Well, the unofficial total is the best I can do. Lots of schools haven't tapped their final total. But unofficially SLTP's outreach caused over 100,000 Valentines to be made !!!!

Congratulations everyone.

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What Is Domestic or Dating Violence?

What do we mean when we talk about dating violence? Dating violence isn't an argument every once in a while, or a bad mood after a bad day. Dating violence (or relationship abuse) is a pattern of violent behavior that someone uses against a girlfriend or boyfriend. Abuse can cause injury and even death, but it doesn't have to be physical. It can include verbal and emotional abuse - constant insults, isolation from friends and family, name calling, controlling what someone wears - and it can also include sexual abuse. It can happen to anyone, at any age, no matter what race or religion they are, no matter what their level of education or economic background.

Understanding what domestic violence is means being aware of the many different things abusers do in order to control their partners. The following checklist of behaviors may help you decide if you or someone you know is being abused.

Does your boyfriend or girlfriend. . .

Use emotional and psychological control?

* call you names, yell, put you down, make racial or homophobic slurs, or constantly criticize or undermine you and your abilities as a partner?

- * behave in an overprotective way or become extremely jealous?
- * make it difficult for you to see family or friends, or "badmouth" your family and friends?
- * prevent you from going where you want to, when you want to, and with whomever you want to?
- * humiliate or embarrass you in front of other people?

Use economic control?

- * force you to account for what you spend or take your money?
- * prevent you from getting or keeping a job or from going to school?

Make threats?

- * make you afraid by using looks, actions or gestures?
- * display weapons as a way of making you afraid or directly threaten you with weapons?
- * use their anger or "loss of temper" as a threat to get you to do what they want?

Commit acts of physical violence?

- * carry out threats to hurt you, your pets, family members, friends, or themselves?
- * destroy personal property or throw things around?
- * grab, push, hit, punch, slap, kick, choke, or bite you?
- * force you to have sex when you don't want to or to engage in sexual acts that you don't want to do?
- * deny you access to food, fluids or sleep?

These are some of the most common tactics used by abusive those who try to control their partner, but certainly not the only ones. If your partner does things that restrict your personal freedom or that make you afraid, you may be a victim of domestic violence.

You are not alone. Millions of women and men are abused by their partners every year. The good news is that more resources are available now than ever before to help you be safe. If you answered yes to any of the questions -- it is time to get some help.

Talk to your guidance counselor. Talk to your SRO. Talk to an adult at school that you trust. Talk to your parents.

What do you think? What other behaviors or actions do you think could be considered domestic violence?

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A New Manual

Work has begin on a new Leadership Manual for SLTP. Although our current text is only three years old, we are in the process of a complete restructure.

Is there something that you think should be included? Please feel free to tap any suggestions to SLTPlead@aol.com

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Conference News

DifferenceMaker Showcase

Making a difference requires know how. This seminar delivers all that and more. The registration is available on line at www.sltp.info and will be mailed to alumni and member schools soon. SLTP will be presenting a very special Lifetime DifferencMaker Award at this conference.

LTC, ALC, TLC

Registrations for all 8 conferences are slightly ahead of schedule. The applications are available on line at www.sltp.info

OTS and Leadership in Athletics

These two conferences are receiving a great deal of attention and we have several teams enrolled already.

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+ Dr. JIM FITZGERALD, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION 1.800.600.7223 +

The 2003 SLTP Conference Schedule

at

Nichols College in Dudley, Massachusetts

Where leaders learn HOW to make a difference!

DifferenceMaker Showcase - April 6

Leadership in Athletics Conference - June 29 - July 1

Officer Training Seminar - - July 1 - 2

LTC's - - July 8 - 12; July 15 - 21; July 29 - Aug 2; Aug 5 - 9

ALC's - - July 8 - 12; July 30 - Aug 2; Aug 6 - 9

TLC - - July 16 - 21

Adviser Certification - - July 30 - Aug 2

The ReEnergizer Conference - November 29

www.sltp.info